

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INR-07

L-03 INRE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00

AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 LAB-04 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-05

TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12

NEA-10 /129 W

-----067799 061833Z /45

O 051441Z OCT 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1639

INFO ALL UNCTAD SUGAR NEGOTIATIONS POST IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BELIZ IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS GENEVA 11590

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 11590 VICE 8469)

PARIS FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY COOPER

TOKYO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: UNCTAD EAGR, ETRD

SUBJ: UNCTAD SUGAR CONFERENCE: SUCCESS IN VIEW

1. SUCCESS OF UNCTAD SUGAR CONFERENCE APPEARED ASSURED OCT 5 WHEN CUBA ACCEPTED BRAZILIAN PROPOSAL THAT QUOTA REDUCTION ABOVE 15 PERCENT BE APPLIED DIFFERENTLY TO THOSE COUNTRIES THAT WERE HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON FREE MARKET SUGAR EXPORTS. CUBAN DELEGATE, IN DRAMATIC STATEMENT, NOTED THAT HIS DELEGATION HAD ALREADY MADE NUMEROUS CONCESSIONS: IT HAD ACCEPTED A LOWER MINIMUM PRICE THAN IT REQUIRED; IT HAD GIVEN GROUND ON STOCKS AND FINANCING PROVISIONS; IT HAD DROPPED INDEXATION DEMAND -- ALL THIS AT A TIME WHEN IT HAD NO ACCESS TO THE SUGAR MARKET OF THE MAJOR IMPORTER. NO ONE COULD ASK FOR MORE, ESPECIALLY ACCEPTANCE OF MEASURE WHICH WOULD INVOLVE A PREFERENCE FOR A DEVELOPED COUNTRY

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OVER A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. HOWEVER, CUBA COULD FOR THE SAKE OF THE CONFERENCE MOVE "ONE QUARTER OF A MILLIMETER MORE" AND ACCEPT BRAZILIAN QUOTA MECHANISM PROPOSAL PROVIDED IT WAS THE DEFINITIVE SOLUTION.

2. AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE THEN URGED THE CONFERENCE TO PROCEED TO A QUICK AND EARLY CONCLUSION.

3. CONFERENCE THEN BEGAN TO WRESTLE WITH ALL OTHER ISSUES WHICH HAD BEEN POSTPONED FOR FOUR WEEKS PENDING RESOLUTION OF B.E.T. QUESTION. FOLLOWING ACTIONS WERE TAKEN:

(A) DEVELOPING COUNTRY EXPORTERS WHO SHIP UP TO 180,000 TONS WOULD BE EXEMPTED FROM STOCKS OBLIGATIONS ON THE FIRST 70,000 TONS OF THEIR B.E.T.'S.

(B) SHORTFALLS DECLARED BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WOULD BE FIRST ALLOCATED TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

(C) DISCUSSION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF THE EC WOULD BE POSTPONED AND CONSIDERED IN A SPECIAL NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE ISA AND EC IN 1978.

(D) WITH US SUPPORT, IT WAS AGREED THAT SPECIAL ACCOUNT SHOULD BE TAKEN OF COLOMBIA'S CASE IN RENEGOTIATION OF BET'S IN 1980.

4. THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CONTINUED TO STRESS THAT IT COULD NOT ACCEPT ITS B.E.T. APPEARS NOW THAT D.R. WILL NOT JOIN AGREEMENT.

5. NUMEROUS OTHER ISSUES REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED INCLUDING PLACEMENT OF TRIGGER POINTS AND AUTOMATIC DISTRIBUTION OF SHORTFALLS. NONE OF THESE ISSUES REMAINING APPEAR SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH TO BREAK CONFERENCE.

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6. DRAFTING GROUPS WILL BEGIN WORK AFTERNOON OF OCT 5. CONFERENCE HAS BEEN FORMALLY EXTENDED THROUGH OCT 7. LEGAL AND DRAFTING GROUPS LIKELY TO CONTINUE THROUGH OCT 12.

7. COMMENT: SMALLER EXPORTERS, PARTICULARLY PANAMA, GUATEMALA AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES APPEAR SATISFIED THAT SPECIAL ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THEIR INTERESTS. THIS ATTITUDE OF COMPROMISE HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY PROMOTED BY LEADERSHIP OF PANAMA (SOZA), SUPPORTED BY U.S. SORDNSON

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Executive Order: N/A
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